

SAFETY ON THE LINE

A service of the NASA KSC Safety and Mission Assurance Directorate

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"If the problem can be stated, it can be solved".

- Unknown

Work Stand Safety

Access stands are used in many locations at KSC while working on flight hardware or in our facilities. They can be a real asset, but like all tools, they must be used correctly. Recently, a KSC employee fell from a ladder work stand platform similar to these pictures. The result was a broken leg and a lost time injury. It is important for all personnel to use caution and be aware of conditions that may create problems during use. As a reminder, here are some safety tips to follow prior to using work platforms.



Prior to use

1. Inspect work stands for visible damage, deterioration, corrosion, loose or missing parts or fasteners.
2. Never use a damaged ladder stand platform.
3. Ensure that all legs of the stand are in good repair, especially at the footing.
4. Ensure legs rest firmly on the floor.
5. Only use these units on a level surface. They are not intended for use on uneven or sloping surfaces.
6. Ensure walking surfaces are clean and free of slip hazards, such as grease or oil.

During use

1. Keep the platform surface and steps free of trip hazards, such as debris, equipment, or parts.
2. Always ensure proper footing on the platform and steps.
3. Look at the stand and decide on the proper way to ascend or descend the stand, whether by facing the stairs or away from the stairs. Make it a conscious decision.
4. When using personal protective equipment (PPE) that may obstruct your view, remove the PPE prior to descending the work stand. If the PPE cannot be removed, use caution to ensure proper footing, and use the hand rails to descend the structure.
5. Always use the work stand locking device.
6. Occupied units shall not be moved.
7. Do not overreach while on the platform. This could cause instability and result in a fall. Always keep the platform in close proximity to the work. Descend and relocate the unit to prevent overreaching.

If you have any questions about work stands, call your Safety office.

Something New!

Safety on the Line is now offering a new service to our customers. If you have a Safety or Health question that would educate other KSC employees, contact us with your question by any of the methods at the bottom of this page. We will try to provide an answer .



Do you have questions, comments, or an article you would like to submit? Contact Alan at 867-7554, fax number 867-2679, mail code TA-C1 or e-mail him at "Safety on the Line" found in your global address list. Safety on the Line is also on the Web. Go to the KSC home page, then click on KSC internal page, then find us under NASA/KSC news.